



# TRAVEL TRAILER CLUB THE MIDWEST

Founded in 1964

*For A Fuller Life - The Travel Trailer Way*

December 2006

Volume 2006 Number 12

## From the Pres



The year has ended. My wife and I wish everyone a MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

The chili outing is coming up in February. Please fill out the registration form included in the paper. This is a fun get-together where you can catch

up on everything.

There are a lot of people that volunteer doing what needs to be done so you can enjoy your campgrounds. Don't forget our newsletter staff Lisa and Gayla. They put out a great paper. However, they would like to take a break. If you have computer skills and would like to take on the job, contact Lisa or me.

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS FOR ALL YOUR HELP!

Don 011

## Editor Wanted!



Lisa & Gayla have been at it for over a year. It's time to pass the buck, hand over the reins, pass back the baton.

Please contact Don Westphal or Lisa Modelski TODAY to volunteer. The winter months are the best time to take over before the busy camping season begins!

Thanks for ALL your feedback and support during our Editing term!

## Send Your 2007 Dues TODAY!



Avoid the late fee and mail your 2007 TTCM dues today! LATE FEE will be enforced after December 31, 2006!

Send your \$25 dues to:  
Christine May, TTCM Treasurer  
29632 Newport Dr  
Warren, MI 48088

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# Halloween Wrap!

Halloween campout was a great success with fantastic weather. 70 units converged on the campground at Bellevue. Draggin' Train and friends put out donuts, coffee, hot chocolate and cider for Friday night's hospitality.

Saturday morning the few members of Draggin' Train that attended served us pancakes and sausage. I understand they were up at 5:30 in the morning! Later in the morning the kids gathered in the building to decorate pumpkins. Boy, there were some pretty good-looking ones! Each winner received a medal on a ribbon. The winners were:

## 0 to 4 age group

- 1st place—Jarrett Voltz—  
Duneland Winnies
- 2nd place—Jonathan Wagner—  
Duneland Winnies
- 3rd place—Elivia Westphal—  
Duneland Winnies

## 5 to 8 age group

- 1st place—Isabelle Voltz—  
Duneland Winnies
- 2nd place—Joe Wagner—  
Duneland Winnies
- 3rd place—Jack Wagner—  
Duneland Winnies

## 9 to 12 age group

- 1st place—Nathaniel Berkimer—  
MAL
- 2nd place—Courtney Sperry—  
Double Dozen
- 3rd place—Dee Gerke—Double  
Dozen

## Teens

- 1st place—Zack Schondorf—  
Duneland Winnies
- 2nd place—Chris Roth—Double  
Dozen
- 3rd place—Brett Carpenter—  
Double Dozen



We served hot dogs and chips to 260 people Saturday afternoon. Thanks

again to Draggin' Train and friends for the help. I think there were 5 or 6 of us in the kitchen. It went very smoothly. Afternoon came and it was time for costume judging. Now, I saw dragons, Superman, a bumblebee, a pair of dice, a pirate and even Santa Clause. My grandchildren came out dressed as one of the Incredibles and Tinkerbelle. They all were cute. I



don't have the winners' names as Duneland Winnies did the judging and gave out little trophies.

Following the costume judging, 80 plus kids went around the campground collecting their long-awaited goodies. Double Dozen had the Haunted Forest ready for the faint of heart. They did a fantastic job.



The trailer decorating was judged by a new member. The winners were:

- 1st place -- Jim Osterman of  
Duneland Winnies
- 2nd place -- Al Ramos - MAL
- 3rd place -- Sandy Nott who  
was a guest of the Fitzpatrick's (I didn't get their chapter).

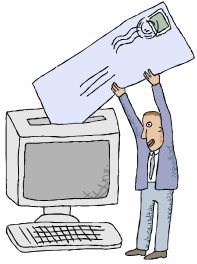
Kork held a 50/50 drawing for the campground. The unclaimed number (blue ticket) for \$20.00 is 108957 and the unclaimed number for \$40.00 is 108622. If no one comes forward with the winning tickets, this money will be put towards next year's Halloween seed money.

Since no Chapters hosted this year, volunteers stepped forward to help. We want to thank you all from the grocery buyers, to the dishwashers, to the onion choppers, and to the floor mopper. We couldn't have done it without you. Thanks a bunch.

Next year River Raisin will host the Halloween campout and Double Dozen will do the Haunted Forest. Come and enjoy a great time. See ya there next year.

*Sharon Westerhouse*

## Important Changes



Both Don Westphal's and Jerry Settler's email addresses have **C H A N G E D**. Please update your records to reflect these changes. Their updated email addresses can also be found on the back page.

Don: westwarn@sbcglobal.net  
Jerry: jlsettler@aol.com

## Winter Address?

Be sure to let your Chapter President, TTCM Treasurer and the TTCM Newsletter Editor aware of any address changes. This will ensure your TTCM News will find you in your new home!



## Email List Growing!



Keep those email addresses coming in! We get more each month! Your email is not shared and is used for newsletter distribution purposes only. PLEASE email the TTCM Newsletter Editor at:

lmodelski@sbcglobal.net to be added to the [free] email list!

Thank you for doing your part to save TTCM money!

## Dearly Departed



John [Jack] Critchlow, TTCM #3381 of the MALs, passed away November 11, 2006. Jack was buried on November 17th and his funeral was held at the Shaw-Lehman Funeral Home in Bellevue. Please keep Mary and the Critchlow family in your prayers.

Carl Anderson, TTCM #0004, passed away December 6th. Mr. Anderson was cremated and a graveside service for family was held. Mr. Anderson lived to the ripe age of 93 years old! Please keep the Anderson family in your prayers and remember with special fondness the passing of a TTCM Charter member.

## Many Thanks!



Draggin' Train would like to thank Double Dozen for all their time spent setting up and running the Haunted Forest. It takes a lot of work and several weekends. There were many compliments from new and old members alike. Each year just gets better and better! THANKS DOUBLE DOZEN!

*Draggin' Train on behalf of TTCM*

## New Associate Member Joins TTCM

Steve Whiting (CPCU, CLU, FMA) of Charlotte Insurance Agency is a new TTCM Associate Member. Please be sure to let Steve know you saw him in the TTCM Newsletter and he'll offer you some great rates! Thanks for your support, Steve!

You can reach Steve for your insurance needs at:

Charlotte Insurance Agency  
313 Lansing St, Ste 2  
Charlotte, MI 48813  
(517) 543-0560  
Fax (517) 543-8901  
Olivet (269) 749-2611  
swhiting@cablespeed.com



## Chapter News

### Double Dozen

DD would like to thank Draggin' Train and all their helpers for a very successful and fun Halloween outing. Hard to believe with all the people present that so FEW did nearly ALL the work! Thanks for all your help!

November brought us our annual Wagon Master Ball. Dinner was fantastic this year and you couldn't beat the \$40/person price when you consider dinner, drinks and dancing were included! Linda Vella and company did another spectacular job!

Wagon Master also brought an important announcement. Stacy and Curt Koch



(daughter of John & Lonnie McCombs and sister of Kim O'Dell) announced they are expecting their FIRST baby. Congrats to you both!!

December took us to the May home for our Christmas party. Christine and Russ opted to forgo the gift exchange and have members bring a can of food to donate to the local food Pantry instead. Now THAT'S what Christmas is all about—giving to those less fortunate than ourselves. The theme was Chili Nights and Christine went all out! There were 2 mystery murders (short and sweet) to solve and she awarded hand-sewn Chili Pepper aprons to the winners. I got to tell you as the recipient of one of them, she does

darned good work. The apron is nice and roomy and actually fits around my petite figure (a little Xmas humor).

Our January pizza party will be held at Linda & Bob Gregory's home in Shelby Township.

Gayla & Bruce Alms, with the help of friends, will host a Crockpot-Luck in February. Plans for whirleyball and possible sledding are in the works. There should be something for everyone.

DD would also like to extend Season's Greetings to all our camper buddies. See you in 2007!

*Lisa Modelski*

### Happy Wanderers

Wow! Am I behind or what?! It's been a busy summer, with family reunions, vacations, the All-American, and our regular campouts. Excuses all aside, we have had a wonderful summer for camping and to think that it is almost over. Is it because when you get older, the time goes by faster? By the time you read this, some of our rigs will be winterized and some will be on the road heading to warmer climates.

We have a lot of super people in our chapter that have volunteered for rallies this year (some are repeats). My I have the envelope please...and the winters are the VanderVeldes, Coopers, Seawalds, Kerstings, Vissers, Ronnings, Hilderbrandts, Carpenters, Rillemas, Dick Pul-

sifers, Bob Pulsifer, Rose Perry, Fergusons, Hershberger, Heimann, & Suchy.

Our rallies were small this year due to the price of gas, but we're hoping for a better year in 2007 with lower gas prices (maybe?). We had about 16 units a rally. We met at White Cloud with only 7 units, but enjoyed eating under a tent and having a campfire both nights. When we took our rigs back to Hesperia, I couldn't help but notice that Mother Nature was already busy at work painting the trees. With the wind rustling through the branches, the leaves were tumbling to the ground. Well, it is September, so we need to remember that's what happens this time of the year. It has to end so we can start all over again.



We have a fish-fry coming up in November, but before that we have a spaghetti supper and the big Halloween rally. More about those later.

I'd like to mention the All-American, with special thanks to Joyce Pulsifer for taking the Chairmanship again (four times). Of course, Dick was her main man. Thanks go to Ole Ferguson for making sure you had enough to eat, Amy Seawald and Sarah Balaban for taking over the teens, who were left without leadership. I heard the teens had a great time. If you missed the All-American, you missed one of the most impressive ones, honoring all



## Chapter News (continued)



branches of the service. Thanks to Dan Spira for arranging the service-men to be

there at the Opening Ceremony at the flagpole and to Bob Pulsifer for providing the sound system. I was in awe!!! Everything went off like clockwork, but it took a lot of planning. Thanks to everyone that chaired an activity, the Hellmans, Jerry Settler for use of his cart, those lovely ladies from Restless Ones who helped with the 10-cent auctions, and to Phyllis Perry who helped and donated some wonderful items to the auction. Those that prepared your meals deserve many thanks, too: the Coopers, Seawalds and Dan Spira for breakfasts; Inez Cummings and MALs for Sunday lunch; and Draggin' Train for hospitality. Our treasurer, Margaret VanderVelde, did a great job making sure that everything got paid on time. Her hubby Jim, and Dave Seawald had a lot of fun getting everyone to make a ringer with the toilet seats. Carol Cooper put two on. Watch out for her! When the guys signed up for golf, some of them thought they were going to the golf course (right, Tom & Dan?), but of course, it was goofy golf. I think someone got skunked

We couldn't have an AA without Bingo. Even though we were a little rushed, we

had fun. Thanks, Tom, for calling.

Our entertainment was Rhonda, who sang like Patsy Cline. She could have sang all night if I had my way and couples were dancing as well. Our church service was a chalk artist and her husband presented a sermon while she drew.

There were about 70 units this year for the All-American.

Many thanks to Blossomland and Joe Anderson's group for the goody-bags. There were some nice things in the bag that I found very useful. Thanks, Joe!!!



Those that couldn't come for one reason or another missed a great time. Those that were ill, get better soon! Maybe we'll see you next time, God willing!

*Ruth Heimann 3412*

### Happy Wanderers

Well, the spaghetti rally has come and gone with about 16 units and 4 walk-ins. I guess we're setting a record with 16 units this year at every rally. We did have a mixed bag of weather, with a strong thunderstorm moving though in the evening on Saturday night. There was an assortment of umbrellas popping up all over the campground. You can't let a little weather keep you in your unit. We had a nice group of card players in the building, whereas in the warmer weather, you find more campfires.

Breakfast was scrambled eggs-n-ham and the smell of warm cinnamon toast was wafting through the building. I sure do love that smell [Editor's Note: I just LOVE the way this woman writes!]] I think everyone has plenty of spaghetti and sauce, garlic bread, salad, and dessert. I took some home to freeze for another meal.

During this rally, we held our election of officers. We elected the following:

Jim VanderVelde-President  
Bob Pulsifer-Vice President  
Secretary-Ruth Heimann  
Treasurer-Margaret Van-

derVelde

Membership-Dick Pulsifer

Thanks to Debbie Seawald for serving as Vice President in 2006.

The campground looks really good with the painting all done and the leaves yet to be blown away and the wood to be chopped and stacked for the new season. Mother Nature is just about on time with the colors and there is a hint of winter in the air.



Don't forget to send your dues for 2007 or you will have to pay a late fee, heaven forbid!

To all of those that could not make it to the campground this year, we hope to see you next year, God willing!

*Ruth Heimann 3412*

# TTCM Flashback...



The first meeting of TTCM was held on December 7, 1963. Vice President George Smith gave information on the club and its purposes. The club was named the Travel Trailer Club of the Midwest. A motion was made by Richard Domanski and seconded by Ed Leonard to call the first Chapter in TTCM the River Raisin Trailer Club. The area covered Monroe County and were to have the first 100 numbers issued to members.

On January 11, 1964 Saginaw Valley Travel Trailer Chapter was formed with 43 people attending the meeting. January 25, 1964 The Blossom Land Travelers were formed in the Benton Harbor area with 61 people present for the meeting. Florian Adent was the President. The 1st Chapter of the Northwoods Travel Trailer Sales was formed as a Chapter of TTCM on February 15, 1964. Winslow Peltier was the first President. On April 12, 1964, the Rollin Wheels Chapter was formed in Flint with 40 people attending the meeting.

Four dealers were approached for loans of \$100.00 each in order to establish working capital to get TTCM underway. They were: Warner Trailer Sales in Pontiac; Crawford Trailer, Inc. in Taylor; Monson and Sons Trailer Sales in Dearborn; and Kolbe Trailer Sales in Warren. The money received from these loans would buy 900 numbers to be put on the trailers of the members, 200 Beret-type hats and possibly the pins and decals of the club.

These were taken from the early minutes in the Secretary's files.

*Sharon Westerhouse*

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## Members With Unpaid 2007 TTCM Dues!

Please look over the list and see if YOUR trailer number appears (last update 12/4/06). Pay today and avoid the late fee! This list is only meant as a friendly and courteous reminder! Keep in mind that this will be your last TTCM newsletter until your dues are up to date. Thank you!

BL: 4462	DW: 3843	HC: 4094	HW: 5004	MAL: 4394	MAL: 4519	RR: 0199
BL: 4544	DW: 4165	HC: 4360	MAL: 0359	MAL: 4404	MAL: 4521	RR: 4440
DD: 2886	DW: 4379	HC: 4493	MAL: 1551	MAL: 4406	MAL: 4528	RR: 100A
DD: 3947	GV: 2202	HH: 4018	MAL: 3134	MAL: 4407	MAL: 4530	RR: 101A
DD: 4064	GV: 2524	HW: 2734	MAL: 3162	MAL: 4410	MAL: 4535	RR: 103A
DD: 4171	GV: 2938	HW: 3099	MAL: 3413	MAL: 4412	MAL: 4537	
DD: 4216	GV: 3882	HW: 3257	MAL: 3957	MAL: 4436	MAL: 4539	
DD: 4275	GV: 3901	HW: 3743	MAL: 4015	MAL: 4443	MAL: 4541	
DD: 4513	GV: 3996	HW: 4035	MAL: 4128	MAL: 4453	MAL: 4550	
DD: 4514	GV: 4003	HW: 4044	MAL: 4142	MAL: 4454	MAL: 4551	
DD: 4529	GV: 4076	HW: 4080	MAL: 4160	MAL: 4459	MAL: 4563	
DD: 4553	GV: 4178	HW: 4291	MAL: 4598	MAL: 4460	MAL: 4567	
DD: 4570	GV: 4193	HW: 4336	MAL: 4212	MAL: 4465	MAL: 4568	
DD: 4593	GV: 4194	HW: 4337	MAL: 4230	MAL: 4467	MAL: 4573	
DT: 3772	GV: 4370	HW: 4342	MAL: 4266	MAL: 4473	MAL: 4575	
DT: 3773	GV: 4433	HW: 4347	MAL: 4314	MAL: 4476	MAL: 4583	
DT: 4075	GV: 4491	HW: 4356	MAL: 4359	MAL: 4497	RO: 4328	
DT: 4176	HC: 2766	HW: 4480	MAL: 4366	MAL: 4500	RO: 4411	
DT: 4225	HC: 3021	HW: 4487	MAL: 4381	MAL: 4510	RR: 0190	



# Hesperia Campground

## Rally Schedule:

Apr 13-15	Woodcutting Saturday Only
Apr 20-22	GV, HW, RO, MALs
Apr 27-29	
May 4-6	
May 11-13	Happy Wanderers
May 18-20	Grand Valley
May 25-27	Happy Wanderers
Jun 1-3	
Jun 8-10	Happy Wanderers
Jun 15-17	Grand Valley, Restless Ones
Jun 17-24	Sewing Bee all week & weekend/ Building unavailable to members
Jun 29-Jul 1	Happy Wanderers
Jul 6-8	MALs, Carefree SAMs
Jul 13-15	Smart-20 units/Happy Wanderers
Jul 20-22	Grand Valley
Jul 27-29	Mobil Suites
Aug 3-5	Happy Wanderers
Aug 10-12	
Aug 17-19	Grand Valley, Happy Wanderers, Restless Ones
Aug 24-26	Allegro Group
Aug 31-Sep 2	
Sep 7-9	Smart (Military) 65+ Units; Building unavailable to members
Sep 14-16	GM Roving Rounders Sept 16-20 Sun-Thur
Sep 21-23	Grand Valley, Draggin Wagon
Sep 28-30	Happy Wanderers
Oct 5-7	Carefree Sams
Oct 12-14	GV, HW, RO, MALs (Halloween)
Oct 19-20	Woodcutting Saturday Only



## Property Tenders

*Name listed first is in charge of the campground in the absence of the Director; name listed second is the Assistant*

Apr 13-15	Settler/Hellman (Wood/Water)
Apr 15-22	
Apr 22-29	Hellman
Apr 29-May 6	
May 6-13	O'Hare/Soller
May 13-20	McGahan
May 20-27	Soller/O'Hare
May 27-Jun 3	Hellman
Jun 3-10	Earlam
Jun 10-17	D. Pulsifer/B. Pulsifer
Jun 17-24	Schwartz/Carr
Jun 24-Jul 1	Bonter/Bonter
Jul 1-8	Horn/Underwood
Jul 8-15	Schwartz/Seawald
Jul 15-22	Horn/Underwood
Jul 22-29	D. Pulsifer/B. Pulsifer
Jul 29-Aug 5	Annis/Baker
Aug 5-12	McGahan/Robbins
Aug 12-19	McGahan/Robbins
Aug 19-26	Schwartz/Smith
Aug 26-Sep 2	
Sep 2-9	Schwartz
Sep 9-16	Baker/Annis
Sep 16-23	McGahan/Earlam
Sep 23-30	Schwartz/Spira
Sep 30-Oct 7	Carr
Oct 7-14	Bonter/Lakatos
Oct 19-21	Settler/Hellman (Wood/Water)

Anyone wishing to Property tend contact:

Jerry Settler

5376 W Webster Rd  
Montague, MI 49437  
(231) 894-5764





## TTCM News

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### Hesperia Campground:

6777 M-20  
Hesperia, MI 49421  
(231) 854-9913  
From Hesperia, head 3.5 mi west on M-20  
From White Cloud, west 16.5 miles on M-20.  
Campground is on the south side.

### Bellevue Campground:

7418 W Baseline Hwy  
Bellevue, MI 49021  
(269) 763-3551  
From I-69/I-94, North on I-69. Exit #48. Go west on M-78  
approx 2 miles. South on Ionia Rd to W Baseline Rd. East  
to 16th. Turn left at stop sign and follow 1/4 mile.

### *Please visit our Associate Members:*

**M & M Camping Center Inc**  
2960 W Jefferson  
Trenton, MI 48183  
(734) 676-2383

**Caswell & Company**  
260 S Dexter St  
Ionia, MI 48846  
(616) 527-9040

**Steven Whiting**  
313 Lansing St, Ste 2  
Charlotte, MI 48813  
(517) 543-0560